



The Gonzales Inquirer

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County picks LCRA radio system in split vote

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

After a heated discussion, Gonzales County commissioners voted 3-2 during a special meeting Thursday, May 18, to adopt a plan that would

use the Lower Colorado River Authority's shared 700/800 MHz trunked radio system and would call for additional towers to be built, which the county would pay for through a grant from the General Land Office. Labeled "Alternative B" by

Seattle, Washington-based consulting engineering firm Hatfield & Dawson, the proposal calls for the county to spend \$5.1 million in capital to build the Project 25 Phase II system, plus \$29,000 per year in recurring costs — mostly in

monthly radio maintenance fees paid to LCRA — to get a system that could conceivably cover 89 percent or more of the county's coverage map outdoors while providing high potential indoor coverage as well as coverage outside the

county. This plan was favored by Precinct 1 Commissioner Dell Whiddon, Precinct 2 Commissioner Donnie Brzozowski and Precinct 3

See **RADIO**, page 15



GONZALES RESIDENTS REPRESENT AT TJHRA

Above: 2023 TJHRA state finalist Paisley Gibson, of Gonzales, maneuvers through the pole bending competition at the J.B. Wells Arena on Tuesday, May 23. Gibson and her friend, Emme Albert, are the only two Gonzales residents representing in the state finals. Right: 2023 TJHRA state finalist Emme Albert, of Gonzales, ties up a goat in the girls goat tying competition Monday, May 22 at J.B. Wells.

PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS



House bill would help Nixon Hospital District build new facility

BY LEW K. COHN
Inquirer Publisher

A bill sponsored by Texas House Rep. John Kuempel (R-Seguin) would allow the Nixon Hospital District to borrow up to \$400,000 that would be used to help finance construction of a new facility in Nixon.

House Bill 2304 has already passed in the House by a 116-23 vote, but Gonzales County commissioners were asked Thursday, May 18, to give the request their blessing before Sen. Lois Kolkhorst (R-Brenham) pushes the bill through the Senate side as the final days of the legislative session tick away.

See **HOSPITAL**, page 15

Students announce futures at Decision Day

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

More than 90 plus Gonzales High School seniors gathered at the Apache gym for the second annual GHS Decision Day.

National Decision Day is a day when high school seniors announce where they are committed to — either colleges or military service.

The seniors announced schools from University of Texas, Texas A&M University, Full Sail University, Vic-

See **DECISION**, page 16

Graduation ceremonies set for local high schools

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Three area high schools will hold graduation ceremonies for the Class of 2023 this weekend.

GONZALES

Graduation ceremonies for Gonzales High School will be held at 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 26, at Apache Field. In case of rain, the ceremony will be held at the Gonzales High School competition gym.

The valedictorian is Cooper Mark LaBuhn, while the salutatorian is Maria Yudith Vazquez.

NIXON-SMILEY

Nixon-Smilely High School graduation ceremonies will be held at 7:30 p.m.

See **GRADUATE**, page 15

PRIMARY SCHOOL GRADUATION



The Gonzales Primary students walk to the stage for their graduation Tuesday, May 23 as they graduate from pre-K to elementary school students.

VANDY VAN EPPS

Local dancers taking part in 'Sleeping Beauty' performances

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

A number of young dancers from the Gonzales area will be taking part in the Come and Take It Dance production of "The Sleeping Beauty," which will be staged at the Crystal Theatre next

month.

Show times are at noon and 7 p.m. June 10 and 2 p.m. June 11 at the Crystal Theatre. Tickets can only be purchased online at comeandtakeitdance.com for

See **DANCERS**, page 6

Inquirer wins Sweepstakes award from Texas Gulf Coast Press Association

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Gonzales Inquirer placed first in 10 of 15 possible categories en route to earning the coveted Sweepstakes award in the Texas Gulf Coast Press Association 2023 Better Newspaper Contest.

Results were announced Saturday, May 20, at the conclusion of the TGCPA convention, held at the Port Royal Ocean Resort & Conference Center in Port Aransas.

The Inquirer accumulated a total of 1,000 points overall to capture not only top honors in

See **AWARDS**, page 6



CONTRIBUTED

Showing off sweepstakes awards in the Texas Gulf Coast Press Association Better Newspaper Contest are (from left) Lew Cohn, Gonzales Inquirer, Division I; Dan Parker, Port Aransas South Jetty, Division II; and Regina Keilers, The Fayette County Record, Division III. The contest awards luncheon topped off the TGCPA convention in Port Aransas this past weekend.

Main Street discusses incentive grant for downtown building

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

The Gonzales Main Street Board met for a regularly

scheduled meeting Thursday, May 18 at Gonzales City Hall.

One of the big action items was an incentive grant for 618 and 620 St. Joseph Street.

Main Street Director Tiffany Hutchinson-Padilla said it's where currently Studio E is located and they are expanding to where Elandee Boutique

used to be.

"I believe Studio E is moving and expanding their business

See **GRANT**, page 16



Two people, one infant hurt in accident

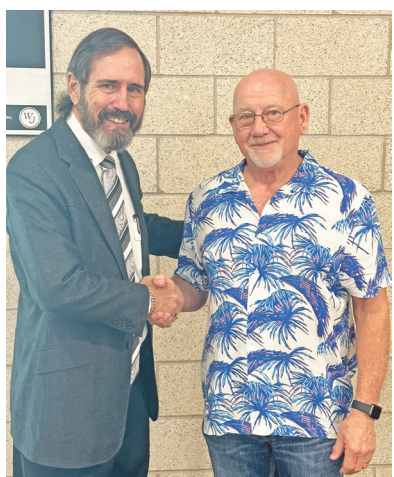
BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

First responders received a call regarding a two vehicle accident between US 90A and County Road 228 Wednesday, May 17. Twenty-eight year-old Annette D. Marsevila was driving a 2017 GMC Sierra eastbound with an infant

passenger on US 90A and, while slowing down to make a left turn into CR 228, she was struck by a 2016 Ford F150 driven by 27-year-old Brian Kloesel, of Shiner. Texas Department of Public Safety Sgt. Ruben San Miguel said Kloesel failed to control his speed and struck Marsevila's vehicle. The drivers and the infant

were all transported to Gonzales Memorial Hospital with non-life threatening injuries, San Miguel said. Both drivers were issued citations for the accident; Kloesel received two citations for failure to control speed and no safety belt, and Marsevila received a citation for no driver's license.

ZELLA RETIRES AS CUERO CITY MANAGER



CONTRIBUTED

Raymie Zella is shown being congratulated on his retirement as Cuero city manager by Cuero's presiding Municipal Judge Gary J. Schroeder. The two Gonzales County residents have a combined 23 years of public service to the city of Cuero.

GVEC members help their communities thrive



CONTRIBUTED

Gonzales County Emergency Management accepts a GVEC Power Up grant for \$20,000. The agency will apply its grant toward purchasing a mobile generator that can be towed during emergencies. This will enable quick electrical backup wherever needed throughout Gonzales County, including to the communities of Nixon, Smiley, Ottine, Waelder, Belmont and Gonzales. Pictured L to R, Front Row: County Judge Patrick C. Davis; Precinct 4 Gonzales County Commissioner Collie Boatright; Precinct 2 Commissioner Donnie R. Brzozowski; Precinct 3 Commissioner Kevin T. La Fleur; and Precinct 1 Commissioner K.O. Dell Whiddon; Back Row: GVEC Community Relations Representative Christine Presley; Emergency Management Administrative Assistant Elizabeth Crow; Emergency Management Coordinator Jimmy Harless; and GVEC Board Director Henry Schmidt Jr.

Eight more Power Up Grants awarded

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Power Up community grant program continues to grow, with eight more nonprofit organizations receiving approximately \$137,399.17 in grants. These grants, which provide funding assistance for community projects, are made possible by the generous donations of GVEC members supporting the charitable Power Up program.

Since the first grant distribution in 2012, more than \$3.5 million in grants have helped fund 221 community projects benefitting GVEC members and citizens in communities GVEC serves. These projects range from the purchase of life-saving equipment for first responders and medical facilities to the renovation of local museums, parks, historic places and community meeting spaces.

In the most recent round of distributions, Gonzales County Emergency Management received a Power Up for \$20,000:

The agency will apply its grant toward purchasing a mobile generator. The unit can be towed during an emergency, delivering quick electrical backup wherever needed throughout Gonzales County, including to the communities of Nixon, Smiley, Ottine, Waelder, Belmont and Gonzales.

Other Power Up grants awarded during this cycle include: \$20,000 to Spirit of Joy Lutheran Church, Seguin, for renovation of the old Juan Seguin Elementary School library building into a multipurpose community-event and hosting center; \$20,000 to Camp Cummins Activity Cen-

ter, New Braunfels, for a raised bed garden that will help clients develop greater self-sufficiency, patience and confidence; \$14,899 to Guadalupe Valley Family Violence Shelter for equipment needed to refurbish and upgrade its counseling services facilities; \$20,000 to Ezzell ISD for new playground equipment; \$20,000 to Shiner Academic and Athletic Foundation for restoration of the old, multiuse Shiner ISD student gym; \$20,000 to Lavaca Medical Center, Hallettsville, for safety and accessibility enhancements to its outdoor fitness trail; and \$2,500 to Goliad County Senior Citizens Center for an onsite automated external defibrillator.

"Although applying for a Power Up grant is becoming more competitive as an increasing number of organizations learn about the program, you shouldn't let this discourage you from applying," says Christine Presley, GVEC Community Relations Representative. "We receive applications for many worthwhile projects but can only select a few each distribution cycle. If you didn't receive a grant this time around, we urge you to apply again and to check in with us anytime. We're here to answer your questions and assist with the application process—we'll do everything possible to help you submit a well-prepared packet."

The application deadline for the Power Up community grant program is August 15. For program qualifications and an application, visit gvec.org, or call Presley at 830.857.3424 for assistance. Grant applications are also available at GVEC's five area offices.

GVEC serves over 120,000 consumers in surrounding areas through five customer service locations in Cuero, Gonzales, La Vernia, Schertz and Seguin.

Jail altercation could lead to charges

FROM STAFF REPORTS

An altercation at the Gonzales County Jail had one inmate and a corrections officer being treated for minor injuries and a second inmate facing possible charges in the attack.

Gonzales County Jail administrator Diane Jurek said the incident happened at about 3:21 p.m. Saturday, May 20, during trusty visitation hours. She said the two inmates apparently have animosity towards each other stemming from disagreements that took place on the streets prior to both being incarcerated.

One inmate was in a multi-purpose room and the other had been in visitation in an adjacent room when the first inmate saw an opportunity to escalate their dispute.

The inmate who was attacked suffered a small laceration on his face, near his ear, and was taken to the Gonzales Healthcare Systems emergency room. A jailer who attempted to subdue and stop the attacker also suffered a minor scrape on his arm, Jurek said.

The incident is under investigation and additional charges could be filed against the attacker, including aggravated assault against a corrections officer and aggravated assault against his fellow inmate, provided the latter wishes to press charges.

"We take any situation like this that happens very seriously," Jurek said.

Historic Spoetzl Brewery to open new distillery

Original Texas brewery now distilling craft spirits

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Spoetzl Brewery, the family-owned and independent craft brewer of the iconic Shiner Bock, announces the addition of a new onsite distillery, the K. Spoetzl Distilling Company, which is distilling a line of Shiner Craft Spirits.

After over 114 years of crafting unique and innovative brews, Spoetzl is pushing the boundaries of its Shiner family of brands with the introduction of a new line of craft spirits. Now, the storied Texas brewery is opening a distillery to bring spirits fans expertly crafted spirits including Vodka, Gin and Moonshine — also known as "Shiner Shine" — with barrel-aged spirits to follow.

"The town of Shiner and surrounding areas have a colorful history of distilling that dates back to before Prohibition and ties into Shiner's rich brewing heritage," says Tom Fiorenzi, Director of Brewery and Distillery Operations. "We believe our brewing experience crafting award-winning beers uniquely positions us to similarly craft the highest quality spirits for the demanding spirits consumer. The entire process — from grain to glass — will all be done by our team right here in Shiner; after all, great beer is the basis for great spirits."

Nestled in one of the oldest cellars of the historic brewery, Shiner commissioned a world-class distillation system, including a copper pot still and copper rectifying columns hand-crafted in Scotland. As an ode to the past, each batch of spirits passes through the collection vessel copper grant designed by Shiner's legendary Brewmaster Kosmos Spoetzl in 1947.

"The copper from Kosmos' grant refines the batch prior to its introduction to the still," says Jessica Michalec, Spoetzl Distillery Manager. "From there, each batch receives the same care and attention from our distillers that our brewers would apply to our craft beers."

Visitors are invited to tour the distillery and sample spirits seven days a week. The distillery also has a menu of craft cocktails, each tailored to incorporate the local heritage and flavors. Bottles of spirits are also available for purchase exclusively from the hospitality room for at-home enjoyment.

"The incredible support from Shiner Beer fans over the years led us to this point where Shiner begins a new chapter distilling unique craft spirits that deliver on quality while paying homage to the brewery's historic past," says Nick Weiland, Shiner's Director of Marketing.

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Gonzales Weather

	May 25 87°/69°	Sunshine, a t-shower in spots 40% chance of rain • RealFeel 96
	May 26 87°/69°	Partly sunny 25% chance of rain • RealFeel 96
	May 27 88°/70°	Partial sunshine 25% chance of rain • RealFeel 94
	May 28 89°/71°	Some sun 25% chance of rain • RealFeel 94
	May 29 90°/70°	Mostly cloudy 2% chance of rain • RealFeel 95
	May 30 91°/69°	Considerable cloudiness 25% chance of rain • RealFeel 92
	May 31 91°/69°	Sunshine and some clouds 25% chance of rain • RealFeel 100

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*Gas Engines Only, Non European Models

Celebrations Birthdays

May 25th Kacie Brzozowski Henke Peggy Iley Cassandra Kistler Erin McCray Ayden Ramirez	Sarah Farrar Weslyn Marie Grauke Krystal Kelly Becky LaFleur Tiffany Lester Kenna Lucas Trent Marrou Roy Staton Lucille Torres	Barbara Friedrich Ruby Hamilton May 30th Erin Etheridge Scott Rhodes Judy Watts Thomason May 31st Naomi Brown Mary Helen Douglas Amanda Garza Jim Russell Courtney Voigt
May 26th Ashley Garcia Martha Jo Guerra Donna Handley Michelle West	May 28th Charlie Campion Matt Koncaba	May 29th Gladys Campion

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Sexton named Lone Star Ag Credit scholarship winner

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Lone Star Ag Credit scholarship winners have been selected. Each recipient will receive \$2500.00 to further their education. The winners' FFA chapters or 4-H clubs will receive \$500.00.

The students receiving scholarships include:
The scholarship application required an essay stressing the role of agriculture and natural resources in student's lives now and in their futures. Recipients



Sexton

also showed examples of their leadership and civic outreach.

"The hours of hard work and service that these students have demonstrated deserves recognition. We wish the best to all 2023 seniors," said Lone Star Chief Executive Officer, Joe H. Hayman.

Recipients will attend a variety of colleges:

- Jacob Crawford - Texas A&M, Commerce
- Faron Roach - Tarleton State University, Stephenville
- Sydney Schertz - Texas State University, San Marcos
- Savay Sexton - Texas A&M, College Station
- Kenna Tatsch - Oklahoma

State University, Stillwater, Oklahoma

- Ashley Wortham - West Texas A&M, Canyon

Lone Star Ag Credit provides financing for rural land, country homes, agribusinesses, livestock, agricultural equipment, and operating expenses. Headquartered in Fort Worth, Lone Star has credit offices in Abilene, Cleburne, Corsicana, Denton, Fort Worth, Georgetown, Hillsboro, Lampasas, New Boston, Paris, Sherman, Stephenville, Sweetwater, Waco, and Weatherford.

For more information, contact a local branch office or visit LoneStarAgCredit.com.

Garden Q&A

with CALVIN FINCH



Q. Why is the Fanick's Phlox selection valued so highly?

A. Phlox are hard to grow in Central and South Texas because they are not very hardy in response to the heat, erratic moisture levels and poor soils. Fanick's Phlox survives well to produce a long bloom period for its pink and white blooms with their high-quality lilac like fragrance.

Q. What insecticide works best to control stink bugs on tomatoes?

A. I have good success with malathion. Follow the label instructions.

Q. We like the looks of sycamore trees. Which of the varieties do you recommend?

A. In this area plant the Mexican Sycamore rather than the American Sycamore. The Mexican Sycamore is more resistant to fungal diseases so you can expect it to live a longer life. Both species grow very fast and are drought tolerant. Recognize the Mexican Sycamore from the presence of hairlike growth on the back of the leaf surface.

Q. My neighbor has an attractive evergreen tree growing in his front yard that is loaded with yellow berries. The birds are feeding on the berries with the result that the foliage is in constant motion. The birds eating the berries include mockingbirds, doves, cardinals and blue jays. Do you know what the tree may be?

A. It may be an anagua. They are a slow growing native evergreen species that make a good shade tree in addition to their obvious support for wildlife.

Q. Why does my neighbor that is into butterflies keep saying the Monarchs are gone until next fall? We planted tropical milkweed, and the plants appear to be hosting Monarchs, they are even laying eggs that are hatching caterpillars!

A. What you are seeing are probably Queen Butterflies which are related to Monarchs but do not migrate between Mexico (through San Antonio) and Canada like the Monarchs. They resemble their Monarch cousins.

Local Tractor Supply hosting 'Try Before You Buy' event

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Tractor Supply Company is hosting its annual Try Before You Buy event, inviting customers in the Gonzales area to stop by on Saturday, May 27, to experience a variety of

power equipment products. From riding mowers to log splitters, customers will have the opportunity to test these items to find the best fit before making a purchase.

From 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., customers can stop by the

Gonzales store and enjoy hands-on demonstrations and activities.

This event is open to the public and will take place at 1619 Hwy 90A. For more information, contact Gonzales Tractor Supply at 830-672-5707.

LIVESTOCK WEEKLY REPORTS

GONZALES LIVESTOCK

May 20
Cattle: 689
Compared to our last sale:
Number 1 choice calves and yearlings sold steady. Less quality calves and yearlings sold steady. Packer cows sold steady & bulls sold steady to 2.00 higher.
Stocker-feeder Steers: Medium and large-frame No. 1: 150-300 lbs., 250-270; 300-400 lbs., 265-270; 400-500 lbs., 237-261; 500-600 lbs., 215-231; 600-700 lbs., 205-211; 700-800 lbs., 172-188. Bull Yearlings: 700-900 lbs., 80-115.
Stocker-feeder Heifers: Medium and large from No. 1: 150-300 lbs., 235-260; 300-400 lbs., 215-230; 400-500 lbs., 201-210; 500-600 lbs., 198-200; 600-700 lbs., 175-195
Packer Cows: Good lean utility and commercial, 73-86; Cutters, 92-97; Canners, 52-77; High yielding fat cows, 82-92.
Packer Bulls: Yield grade 1 & 2, good heavy bulls, 105-117; Light weights and medium quality bulls, 97-100
Stockers Cows: \$750 to \$1,700. Pairs: \$1,100 to \$1,900.

NIXON LIVESTOCK

May 22
Cattle - 11112
Steers:
200-300 lbs - \$229-270
300-400 lbs - \$189-285
400-500 lbs - \$210-280
500-600 lbs - \$193-260
600-700 lbs - \$187-225
700-800 lbs - \$162-215
Heifers:
200-300 lbs - \$177-245
300-400 lbs - \$182-245
400-500 lbs - \$192-235
500-600 lbs - \$182-225
600-700 lbs - \$176-225
700-800 lbs - \$163-181
Slaughter Cows - \$45-102

Slaughter Bulls - \$86-126
Stocker Cows - \$650-1100
Pairs: \$805-1675
We will be closed on Memorial Day, May 29, 2023!!!

CUERO LIVESTOCK MARKET

May 19, 2023
Number of head 660
There were 55 cows and 9 bulls. The packer market on cows and bulls was again slightly higher on what was here. The number was low due to wet but what was here sold very well.. The calf market was once more higher on all classes of calves. Average price was almost \$2/cwt higher on 6 pounds more weight. This resulted in almost \$21/head more value!
Packer bulls: 118.00-127.00
Packer cows: 80.00-100.00
canners & cutters 30.00-50.00
poor & weak NONE
Palpated: NONE
PAIRS: 2
\$1,150&\$1,300
Steer Calves: (AVG-HIGH)
Under 200 lbs. NONE
200-249 lbs. NONE
250-299 lbs. 228.00-252.00
300-350 lbs. 228.00-298.00
350-400 lbs. 232.00-280.00
400-450 lbs. 220.00-268.00
450-500 lbs. 230.00-256.00
500-550 lbs. 217.00-238.00
550-600 lbs. 214.00-234.00
600-700 lbs. 197.00-233.00
700-800 lbs. 187.00-214.00
Bull Calves: (AVG-HIGH)
Under 250lbs 272.00-300.00
250-300 lbs. 289.00-298.00
300-350 lbs. 268.00-300.00
350-400 lbs. 229.00-282.00
400-450 lbs. 229.00-262.00
450-500 lbs. 228.00-254.00
500-550 lbs. 219.00-244.00
550-600 lbs. 215.00-232.00
600-700 lbs. 203.00-229.00
Over 700 lbs. 174.00-196.00
Heifer Calves: (AVG-HIGH)
under 200 lbs. 280.00-306.00

200-250 lbs. 260.00-308.00
250-300 lbs 245.00-282.00
300-350 lbs. 212.00-270.00
350-400 lbs. 204.00-230.00
400-450 lbs. 211.00-240.00
450-500 lbs. 214.00-238.00
500-550 lbs 207.00-240.00
550-600 lbs. 205.00-216.00
600-700 lbs. 198.00-228.00
Over 700 lbs 165.00-203.00

HALLETTVILLE LIVESTOCK COMMISSION CO., INC.

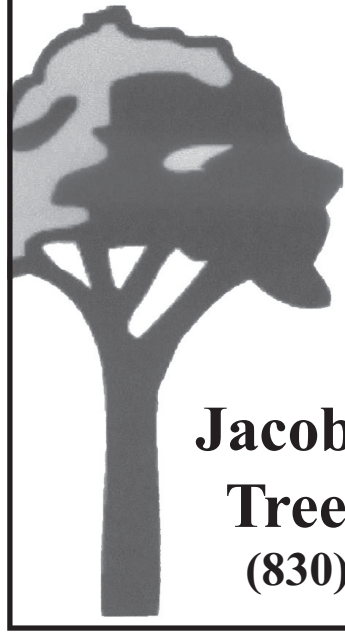
Sale date: May 16
Cattle on hand: 642
Packer Cows:
Canner and Cutter Cows: \$72-101
Utility & Fat Cows: \$68-97
Low dressing canner cows: \$50-70
Poor/Weak: \$45-55
Packer Bulls:
Heavyweight Bulls: \$115-130
Utility & Cutter Bulls: \$103-115
Lightweight Canner Bulls: \$92-102
Stocker Cows:
Good Stocker/Cows & Heifers: \$1350-1350
Medium Stocker Cows & Heifers: \$950-1300
Good Cow & Calf Pairs: NONE
Medium Cow & Calf Pairs: 1 PAIR - \$1600
Stocker & Feeder Calves & Yearlings:
Number 1 steer & bull calves: Under 200 lbs.: \$230-315
200-300 lbs.: \$245-325
300-400 lbs.: \$225-295
400-500 lbs.: \$215-280
500-600 lbs.: \$198-250
600-700 lbs.: \$188-220
700-800 lbs.: \$180-207.50
Number 1 heifer calves: Under 200 lbs.: \$210-290
200-300 lbs.: \$210-285
300-400 lbs.: \$215-265
400-500 lbs.: \$190-255
500-600 lbs.: \$185-235
600-700 lbs.: \$180-210
700-800 lbs.: \$170-195
Replacement Heifers:

350-750 lbs.: \$210-325
The calf market was higher again this week averaging \$5 higher. Wonderful rains shortened the supply. Demand is good for all weights and classes. Packer cows & bulls sold \$3 higher. No good high dressing cows in the mixture. Total supply approximately 125 head.

SEGUIN CATTLE CO.

May 17
Market steady on all classes of stocker cattle with packer cows and bulls - 3-4 better
Cattle - 385
Sheep & goats - 539
Medium & large frame #1 Steers: 200-300 lb. .75-1.74-2.65
300-400 lb. .90-1.67-2.56
400-500 lb. 1.00-2.03-2.56
500-600 lb. .60-1.77-2.34
600-700 lb. .90-1.62-2.13
700-850 lb. 1.45-1.74-2.05
Medium & large frame #1 Heifers: 200-300 lb. 1.75-2.24-3.25
300-400 lb. .80-1.83-2.32
400-500 lb. .45-1.89-2.32
500-600 lb. .80-1.87-2.20
600-750 lb. .85-1.69-2.05
Cows:
Utility & commercial - 77-93-106
Cutters - 72-79-87
Canners - 52-62-73
Palpated cow - 825=1425
Cow/Calf Pairs - 400-1725
Bulls:
Heavy High Yielding - 1.10-1.20
Light & Low Yielding - 1.00-1.09
Sheep & Goats:
Nannies - 80-350
Kid Goats (Fat) - 2.20-3.47
Wethers - 1.85-3.20
Billies - 1.57-3.70
Dorp. Ewes - 50-320
Dorp. Lambs (Fat) - 2.00-2.50
Woolled Ewes - 90-110
Woolled Bucks - 1.50-1.95
Lambs - NONE
Barb. Bucks - NONE

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Remember: May is Heritage Preservation Month

Editor's Note: The following is an updated version of a column written by the author for the Inquirer in 2011.

BY ANN COVERT
Special to the Inquirer

May is Heritage Preservation Month. Many communities will celebrate 2023 National Preservation Month with recognition of community preservation. "People Saving Places" is the theme of the month-long celebration and is sponsored by the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

The theme is a national high-five to everyone doing the great work of saving places—in ways big and small—and inspiring others to do the same.

Since the National Trust created Preservation Week in 1971 to spotlight grassroots preservation efforts in America, it has grown into an annual celebration observed by many small towns and big cities with events of appreciation and recognition. The first official Preservation Month was observed in 2005.

Gonzales does not have a public celebration of our preservation heritage this year but many have certainly contributed to the preservation of parts of Gonzales.

In 2010, a "Vision in Preservation" plan was designed for the community and is a work in progress with several projects and plans yet to be implemented.

The Keep Gonzales Beautiful program encourages preservation of our heritage and stewardship of our lands in beautification and property improvement.

We extend sincere appreciation to all who have done so much for the preservation of public buildings and private homes. You have truly contributed to preserving our heritage and making Gonzales beautiful by your efforts. We want to commend all of you who have endeavored to preserve a bit of the history of Gonzales whereby in the years to come the legacy will long be recognized by all who live here and visitors alike. We recognize and applaud your persistence and investment.

Protecting America's heritage can be easy and fun. Preservation is more than buildings and grounds. It is seen in many areas. Look around and see what is here. Here are a few simple ways in which you can participate:

1) Tour your hometown. Visit a historic site in your area or stop by the museums to recognize the great treasure of history we have here. Visit Pioneer Village, buildings there will startle and astound you as to the conditions the pioneers and their families endured to secure this area called Gonzales and parts of Texas. Get out and take the Historic Walking Tour and see the homes and buildings that have been restored. Remember that many of the private residences were in declining structural deterioration even in the '70's and the homes changed hands. New caring owners persevered to save, restore and a live in a piece of history. Getting out of your car allows you to appreciate the buildings and public parks that make up the place where you live.

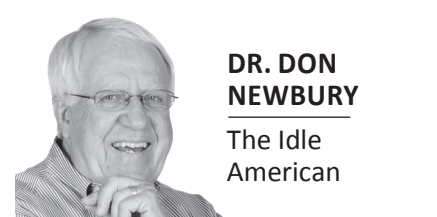
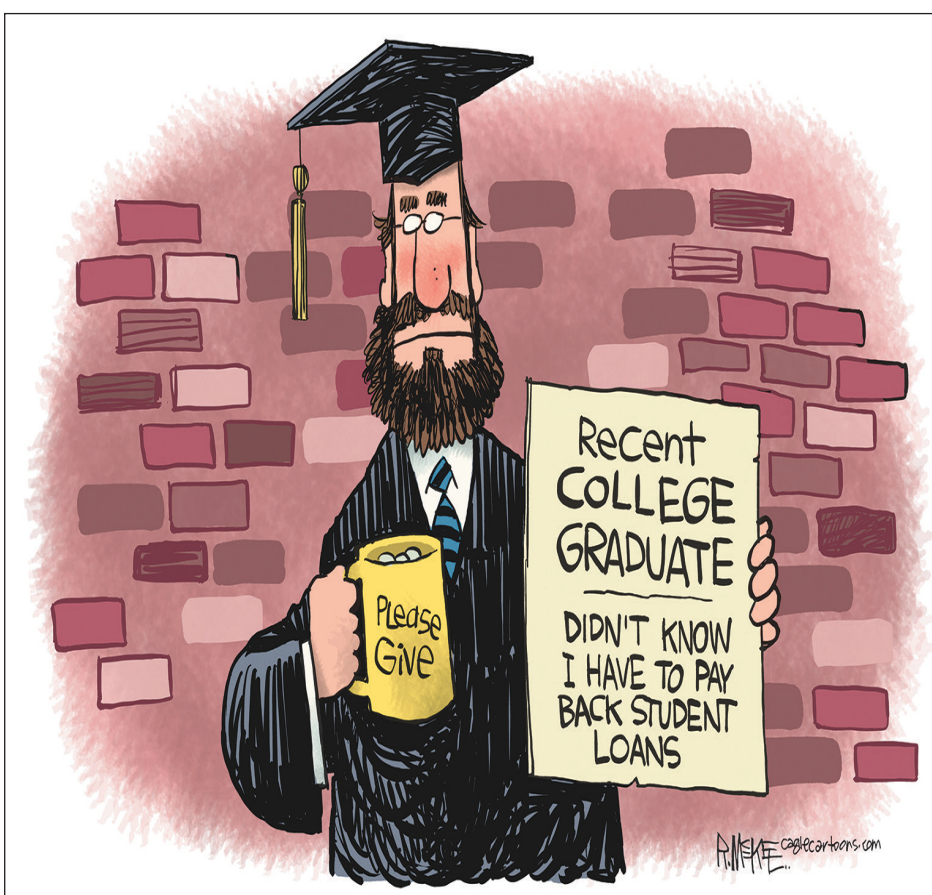
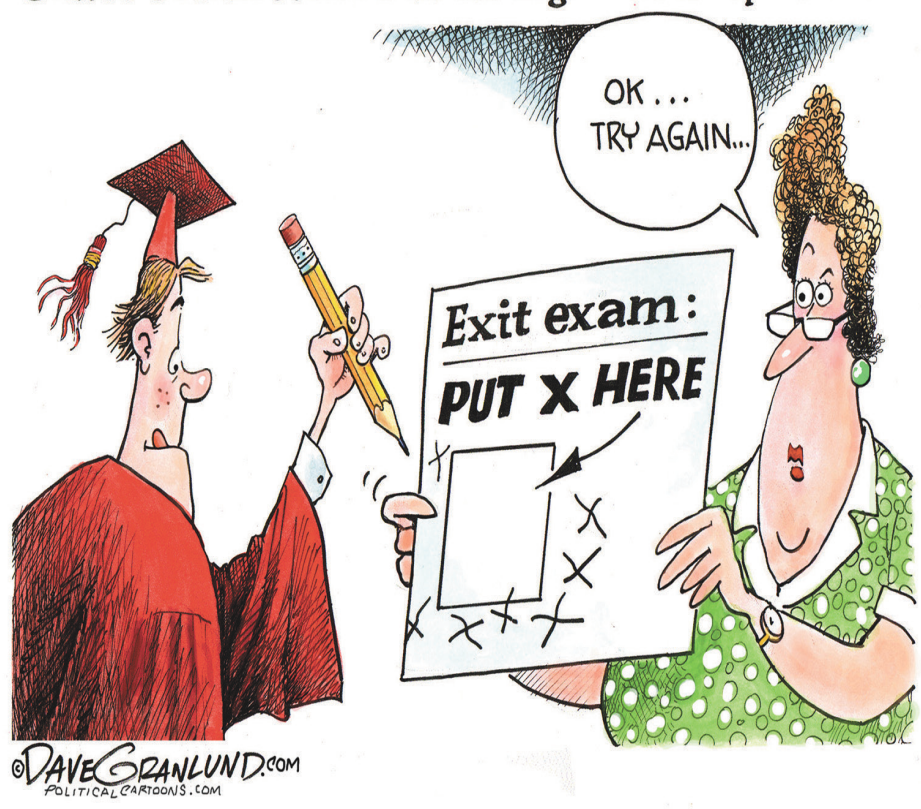
2) Shop on Main Street. Traditional commercial districts not only have appealing buildings but they also feature locally owned stores that are vital parts of your community. Look at the buildings and look for the detail of the architecture..... try it - it is fun!

3) Read all about it. There are several books now that chronicle history and adventure of the early days of Gonzales.

4) Visit some sacred history. The churches in Gonzales are among the community's oldest and most beautiful buildings. The local cemeteries reveal the fascinating lives of those who came before. There are over 100 historical markers designating noteworthy spots of interest in Gonzales County - look them up and see what you find.

5) Explore your family's history. Show your kids the places where you went to school or where you got married; take your parents to a place that's important in your life. Check out our outstanding Archives where volumes of information are carefully

States soften standards for high school diplomas...



Leave it to the fraternities...

Stephen F. Austin State University, newest member of The University of Texas System, has a storied basketball history, but in football--for a few seasons, at least--not so much.

Such was true for the 1959-1960-1961 football teams, when late Coach William (Red) Conkright--a collegiate grid star at The University of Oklahoma and later a professional player and coach--didn't fare well at SFA.

His three-year record was 6-25-1, with his SFA tenure fading to black after the third season. Numerous pickets and banners at the November homecoming parade in 1961 suggested that he, uh, leave. One banner on the parade route--unfurled in front of what was then the Stone Fort Bank--pulled no punches. It read: "Win, Heck. Just Score." And those frat guys didn't even know how to spell "heck?..."

Across the years, sports have loosened "message spigots" of cascading creative juices, particularly for collegians across the land.

For example, during a quarter-century ending in the 1990s, Tom Osborne's University of Nebraska teams marched roughshod over most opponents. One usual victim was The University of Missouri. A Cornhusker faithful hoisted a two-word banner: "Maul Missouri."

The Tigers--as if flying a white flag long before kick-off--seemed content with building character instead of seeking football lore. Their banner read: "Maintain Dignity Against Nebraska!..."

Arkansans and Texans whose memories stretch back a half-century remember the intense rivalries between The Universities of Texas and Arkansas. For several years, Longhorn Coach Darrell Royal pitted his wizardry against that of the Razorbacks' Frank Broyles.

Before the storied 1969 game in Little Rock, a clever message appeared on the marquee of a church in Fayetteville, AR. It provided a memory still found to be humorous decades later. It read: "Football is Only a Game. Spiritual Things are Eternal. Nevertheless, Beat Texas!"

It was called "the game of the century" in college football's 100th anniversary season, when the Longhorns and Razorbacks ranked one and two nationally. President Richard Nixon attended the game, arriving by helicopter in the end zone. Texas scored late, winning 15-14....

It is worth the re-telling of Blackie Sherrod's first day of retirement. Having written for the Temple Telegram, Fort Worth Press, Dallas Times-Herald and Dallas Morning News for more than 60 years, he had won all the major trophies, plaques and citations signifying his greatness among sports journalists.

Many fans think he was "the best there ever was." They may be right.

Anyways (and that's the way he introduced sentences regularly, just as predictably as his calling baseball's annual highlight, the "World Serious"), somewhere along the way, he spotted a t-shirt he wanted to wear on his first day of retirement. He bought it, eager to wear it when his work was done.

No doubt he had dozens of t-shirts, but none was adorned with such clever words reflecting his view on things. A further guess is that the message accurately summed up his reflection on a colorful life that was to span 96 years. It read: "You Have Mistaken Me for Someone Who Cares!..."

Sherrod was a graduate of Howard Payne University, picking up his diploma there a decade before I crossed the same stage in 1961. During my HPU presidency, 1985-1997, a highlight was conferring the university's highest recognition--an honorary doctorate--to Sherrod.

During his response, this sports writing genius--who never had a journalism course--credited the late Dr. Cleo McChristy, then a middle-aged college English professor, with teaching him most about writing. She was a veteran professor when I sat in her classes. Admittedly, she was genius,

The Gonzales Inquirer

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Staff

PUBLISHER
Lew Cohn

STAFF WRITER
Vandy Van Epps

CONTRIBUTING
Betty Cohn
Clayton Kelley

BOOKKEEPER
Sanya Simmons

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Observing Memorial Day

Complete the crossword puzzle. Then circle those words in this article.

Memorial Day was called Decoration Day when it started as a day to honor the nation's Civil War dead by decorating their graves.

After the Civil War, people across America started a tradition of setting one day a year aside to decorate the graves of fallen soldiers.

On May 30, 1868, General James Garfield made a speech at Arlington National Cemetery. After the speech, thousands of people who came to hear him decorated the graves of more than 20,000 Union and

Confederate soldiers buried there.

After World War I, Decoration Day was expanded to remember those who had died in all American wars.

In 1971, Congress declared Memorial Day a national holiday to be celebrated the last Monday in May.

Today a flag is placed on each grave at Arlington National Cemetery. The president or the vice president gives a speech and lays a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

Across

- a talk given to an audience
- monument to the dead
- a long established custom
- for special or future use

Down

- final resting places
- to retain an idea in the memory
- ground where dead are buried
- someone who serves in the military
- the first day of the working week
- to make something more attractive
- great respect and admiration
- a day set aside sometimes to commemorate something

How many stars can you find on this page?

Kid Scoop Together

Do the math to discover which emblem represents each branch of the U.S. military.

- 25 = Department of the Air Force
- 32 = United States Coast Guard
- 27 = Department of the Navy
- 35 = Department of the Army
- 29 = United States Marine Corps



Patriotic Pottery

A GREAT CLASSROOM CRAFT: Paint terra-cotta flower pots, coffee cans, jars and other containers in stars and stripes. Then, plant some flowers in them and deliver them to a local veterans hospital or to neighbors who have lost a family member serving our country.

Draw a line between each identical flower pot.

American Flag Pencil

- Color the two flags at right.
- Cut along the dotted line.
- Fold the little flag around the top of your pencil and use glue to fasten the folded flag.

Extra! Extra! Symbols of Our Country

Look through today's newspaper for symbols that represent our country. How many can you find?

Standards Link: Research: Use the newspaper to locate information.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Paper poppies are made by unemployed and disabled veterans and sold to raise money for veterans and their widows, widowers and orphans. Look at each row of poppies. Draw the one that should come next to continue each pattern.

Standards Link: Language Arts: Follow simple written directions.

Double Double Word Search

OBSERVING
MEMORIAL
CEMETERY
RESTING
RESPECT
GRAVES
FLOWER
SYMBOL
SERVES
HONOR
FLAGS
TOMB
LOST
CANS

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?

G	S	R	E	S	G	A	L	F	M
R	N	E	C	A	N	S	F	L	Y
E	R	I	V	E	I	M	A	S	R
S	E	L	T	A	V	I	L	E	E
P	W	O	B	S	R	E	L	V	T
E	O	S	R	O	E	G	E	R	E
C	L	T	M	S	S	R	N	E	M
T	F	E	L	O	B	M	Y	S	E
B	M	O	T	H	O	N	O	R	C

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

Write On!

Remembering the School Year

What will you remember most from this school year?

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The Gonzales Inquirer
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Crystal Theatre Camp has slots open for summer workshops

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Ben DeMent is one of the Crystal Theatre Camp success stories. DeMent started in the Crystal summer programs at age 7 and participated in all the programs the Crystal offers until he graduated and started attending UT last fall.

This summer, Ben has been selected as one of the University of Texas troupe of students who spend the summer on the campus at Winedale, performing multiple roles in all three plays they will be presenting. This summer season at Winedale



Ben DeMent performs at the Alamo in 2022 as Gonzales County pioneer Mr. King.

includes "As You Like It," "Hamlet" and "Cymbeline."

"We are delighted to have him returning to Winedale as a University of Texas undergraduate, after his dedicated participation in the Camp

Shakespeare and Gonzales programs," professor James N. Loehlin said. "He is a wonderful student, and his enthusiasm and experience will be a great addition to the class."

The Crystal has one slot open in both its summer workshops. Youngest Camp runs mornings June 27-30, and Full workshop runs mornings July 10-July 21.

Applications can be accessed online at gonzalescrystaltheatre.org and emailed to barbaracrozier1@gmail.com or dropped off at Laurel Ridge, 827 Saint Joseph Street.

SENIOR PRANK

The Gonzales High School Senior Class of 2023 played its senior prank by putting a "For Sale" sign up on the high school sign next to the marquee. This isn't the first time a senior class has tried to "sell" the high school as one reader showed the Inquirer a yearbook photo of the Class of 1984 pulling a similar prank.



CONTRIBUTED

AWARDS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Division I, but to earn the most points of any newspaper participating in the contest in 2023.

"Today was a historic day for one of the most historic newspapers in the state of Texas," Inquirer publisher Lew K. Cohn. "The Gonzales Inquirer has been a leader in the industry since it first came into being in 1853 and we are proud to continue that tradition 170 years later. Our goal is always to give our community and our advertisers a newspaper they can not only be proud of, but one that represents what makes Gonzales County exceptional with something for everyone."

Those sentiments were echoed by Austin Lewter from the Texas Center for Community Journalism, who judged the contest for TGCPA.

"I can't find anything missing from this paper," Lewter wrote in naming the Inquirer first in General Excellence, one of the 10 categories in which the Inquirer claimed top honors. "It's a complete package. Wonderful work. Great layout. News and sports reporting are wonderful. There is something here for the entire family."

The Inquirer also won the Farris Block Memorial Community Service Award for its efforts to help better inform voters about local elections, especially through holding not one, but two political forums in 2022 that were livestreamed on Facebook as well as open to the public. One was held in conjunction with the Gonzales County Republican Party for candidates for countywide office, while the second was for

the City of Gonzales mayoral race and Gonzales ISD Board of Trustees.

"This is a great example of why community newspapers are so important," Lewter wrote. "Great work."

The Inquirer also took first place in Editorial Writing (Lew K. Cohn); Serious Columns (Betty Cohn), Feature Photos (Lew K. Cohn and Vandy Van Epps), Sports Coverage (Van Epps, the late Louis Decker and Lew K. Cohn); Feature Writing (Lew K. Cohn and Van Epps, with an editorial assist from Betty Cohn); News Writing (Lew K. Cohn); Headline Writing (staff award); and Best Website (staff award).

The newspaper also finished second in Special Section for the 2022 Discover magazine and second in Display Advertising.

DANCERS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

\$30 per person and there will be assigned seating.

JISELLE MOLINA



Molina

Jiselle Molina, a delightful 5-year-old, is currently attending kindergarten. Her world is filled with creativity and joy as she adores making arts and crafts for her beloved family. Jiselle also takes great pleasure in dog-sitting her playful companion, Maximus, and cherishes the fun-filled play dates she shares with her best friend, Sofia. One thing that fills her heart with excitement is the upcoming opportunity to showcase her dancing skills in her very first professional ballet show. Jiselle is thrilled to learn from the best ballet teacher, Mr. Gary, as she takes her first steps towards becoming a skilled ballerina.

KATELYN EVANS

Katelyn Evans is a vibrant 6-year-old currently in 1st grade. She delights in spending time outdoors, especially when playing with her adorable dog. Recently, Katelyn experienced an incredible moment of joy and pride when she had the extraordinary opportunity to dance



Evans

alongside professional dancers in a grand and spectacular show. Being part of such a remarkable production made her feel incredibly honored and filled her heart with happiness. Katelyn's love for dancing continues to grow, and she dreams of one day becoming a professional dancer herself, sharing her passion and talent with audiences around the world.

SHAILA ZUNIGA

Shaila Zuniga is a soon-to-be 3rd grader, transitioning from 2nd grade.



Zuniga

She adores spending quality time with her family and exploring the world of colors through coloring. Shaila's passion lies in ballet, where she eagerly learns new

dance steps and gracefully performs in front of others, making her feel like a true professional. She aspires to become a ballet star, dazzling everyone with her skills and dedication. In addition to her love for ballet, Shaila also dreams of becoming an astronaut, venturing into the great unknown and reaching for the stars.

LEAH RAE TUCH

Leah Rae Tuch, a spirited 9-year-old, is currently wrapping up her journey in the 3rd grade. She has a profound passion for expressing herself through various forms of art, including ballet, hip-hop, and visual art. Initially, Leah felt a bit nervous



Tuch

about her artistic endeavors, but everything changed when she had the chance to interact with professional dancers backstage. Their encouraging words and valuable advice infused her with newfound confidence. From that moment on, Leah felt a surge of self-assurance, ready to embrace her talents and continue honing her skills in ballet, hip-hop, and art. With each step she takes and every stroke of her paintbrush, Leah is on an inspiring journey of self-discovery and artistic growth.

LIZET GUERRA

Lizet Guerra, an 11-year-old student in the 5th grade, is a multi-talented individual with a passion for various creative pursuits. She finds immense joy in reading captivating stories, expressing her artistic vision through



Guerra

drawing, and crafting her own tales through writing. Moreover, Lizet's love for dance sets her spirits soaring as she gracefully moves to the rhythm. Recently, she had the incredible opportunity to perform in the prestigious Nutcracker production alongside accomplished professional dancers. The thrill of being a part of such a spectacular show truly blew her mind and further fueled her dreams of pursuing dance in the future.

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*APY = Annual Percentage Yield. Interest rates are variable and may change at any time without notice. APY valid as of 5/8/2023. Not eligible for checks or debit card. Limited to 6 withdrawals, outgoing transfers or debits per month. One account per person. Customers currently holding a Rising Star Account or those who have had a Rising Star Account are not eligible. Account changes to regular Savings upon student's 18th birthday. Scholarship is considered interest and will be reported on IRS 1099-INT. Ages 0-17. \$25 Minimum opening deposit. No monthly service charges. **SCHOLARSHIP VALID THROUGH 6/30/23**, one per person deposited into savings. Limited to first 1000 accounts.



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CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

The deadline to place an ad in the paper is Tuesday by Noon.

ERRORS

The Gonzales Inquirer is responsible for the first incorrect insertion of an ad only. Call (830) 672-2861 to notify of a needed correction.

CALL TODAY

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050 GARAGE SALES

GARAGE SALE: 1520 St. Louis St., Saturday, May 27, 9:00am-2:00pm. Furniture, pictures, pine tables, linens, some clothes, lamps, small wicker chairs, misc. items.

050 GARAGE SALES

YARD SALE THURS. & Fri, June 1st & 2nd, 8 - 4, 307 E. Wallace. A little bit of everything, household, gadgets, MWC clothing, etc.

055 ESTATE SALES

055 ESTATE SALES

670 APARTMENTS FOR RENT OR LEASE

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Para solicitar un apartamento favor llamar a manager al siguiente numero 830-582-1343. Para solicitar una adaptacion o modificacion razonable, favor llamar manager al siguiente numero 830-582-1343.

Personas que hablan español y requieren un interprete, favor llamar a manager al siguiente numero 830-582-1343.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

670 APARTMENTS FOR RENT OR LEASE

850 HELP WANTED


TEXAN NURSING AND Rehab of Gonzales is now hiring for the following position: Full Time: C.N.A., all shifts; LVN, all shifts, full-time, with a \$1000 Sign On and Referral Bonus. Individual should be multi-task oriented, self-motivated, and must enjoy working around the elderly. Please apply in person: Texan Nursing and Rehab of Gonzales, 3428 Moulton Rd., Gonzales, Texas 78629. EOE

850 HELP WANTED




Part-time ITV/WebEx Proctors needed to teach at Victoria College's Gonzales Center. For more information and to apply go to www.victoriacollege.edu and click on Jobs@VC. Victoria College is an Equal Opportunity Institution.

850 HELP WANTED



Instructor needed to teach Certified Pharmacy Technician course at the Gonzales facility. Classes begin in August 2022. Prefer minimum of one year experience. For more information call (361) 572-6446 or email HealthCareers@VictoriaCollege.edu. An Equal-Opportunity Institution

850 HELP WANTED



The Division of Allied Health is hiring part-time Adjunct Instructors for the for the clinical setting of the ADN and VN Nursing Programs. Adjunct Instructors are needed at our Victoria campus as well as in the Gonzales, Cuero, and Hallettsville locations. For more information and to apply go to www.victoriacollege.edu and click on Jobs@VC.

Victoria College is an Equal Opportunity Institution.

850 HELP WANTED

Harris Estate Sale
Saturday 5/27 & Sunday 5/28 from 9a-4p
1625 Donovan St in Gonzales, TX 78629

No early birds, prices given prior OR presales!

Follow:
www.facebook.com/comeandorganizeit for info, updates and photos!!

Knick Knacks, Ceramics & Glass GALORE!! There is something for EVERYONE! Formal Dining Table & Chairs, China Cabinet, Stereo, Curio Cabinet, Velvet Couch, 2 Arm Chairs, Shelf, 2 Entry Tables, Coffee Table & End Tables, Armoire, Lamps, Dressers, Bedside Tables, Canopy Bed & Mattress, King Bed & Mattress, Rocker, Vintage Clothing, Asian Decor, Kitchen Items, Dish Sets, Crystal, Silver Plate, TON of Ceramics (painted & unpainted), Ceramic Molds, Wall Art, Linens, Blankets, Books, Riding Mower, Project Pieces, Old Tools, Old Large Welding Machines and soooo much more!

850 HELP WANTED

THE TEXAN IS looking for a Full time Maintenance Director. Please apply in person: Texan Nursing and Rehab of Gonzales, 3428 Moulton Rd., Gonzales, Texas 78629. EOE

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CAL MAINE FOODS Inc. Happy Hen location is looking for Shipping and Receiving, Palletizer. Benefits include: Vacation, Sick leave, Hosp. Ins., Dental, Vision, 401K, ESOP. Apply in person: Cal-Maine Foods Inc., 1974 CR 283 W, Harwood, Tx 78632. Monday-Friday 7-4.

060 LOST AND FOUND

FOUND TOR-TOISE; PLEASE contact Del at Delids@stx.com with description and location lost for return.

670 APARTMENTS FOR RENT OR LEASE

LOW INCOME APARTMENTS for rent. 1, 2, 3, 4 bedrooms. No electric deposit required. Apply at 410 Village Drive. Gonzales 830-672-3419.

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All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination.

We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.



400 DIRT, GRAVEL

WE HAVE SELECT fill, wash rock for landscape, septic rock & pea gravel for sale. **Bobcat Driver also needed.** For more information, contact Randall, 361-243-6908, Durrett Sand & Gravel.

620 HOUSES FOR SALE

HOME MUST BE moved. Lovely 3/1 in Leesville, Tx. Worth \$125K, will sell & move for \$38K. 361-533-0846, Leave name, address & when you want to move it or call back.



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The Gonzales Inquirer

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Driver needed to distribute papers to Post Offices and Vendors.

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Must be able to lift 25 lbs.

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Call **830-672-2861** for more information.

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ALL POSITIONS
When: May 30, 2023
Where: Carl & Mary Welhausen Library
810 Front Street, Yoakum, TX 77995
Time: 9 - 11 am and 1 - 5 pm
For more information, call 830.203.9005

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Evento de Contratación
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TODAS LAS POSICIONES
Cuándo: 30 de Mayo de 2023
Dónde: Carl & Mary Welhausen Library
810 Front Street, Yoakum, TX 77995
Hora: 9 - 11 am y 1 - 5 pm
Para obtener más información, llame al 830.203.9005
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900 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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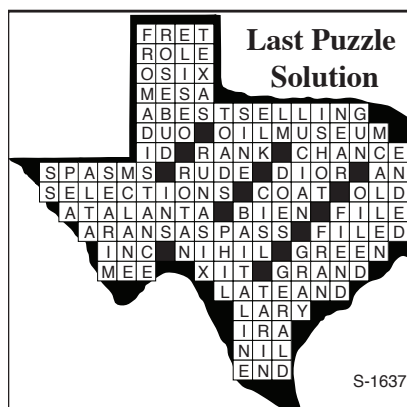
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May 18

Puzzle Answers



3	2	4	7	1	8	9	5	6
6	7	5	9	3	2	4	1	8
9	1	8	4	5	6	3	2	7
7	3	6	2	4	5	1	8	9
4	9	1	8	6	3	2	7	5
8	5	2	1	7	9	6	3	4
5	4	7	6	2	1	8	9	3
1	8	3	5	9	4	7	6	2
2	6	9	3	8	7	5	4	1

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Thompsonville Cemetery Association meeting

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

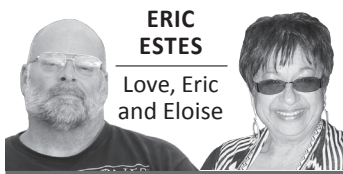
The Thompsonville Cemetery Association will hold a Open Board meeting on Sunday, June 4, 2023 at 3 p.m. We will meet at the Thompsonville Community Center, 2179 County Road 240, Waelder, Texas.

GCRPC seeking advocates for long-term care residents

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Golden Crescent Regional Planning Commission's Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program is seeking volunteers in Calhoun, Dewitt, Goliad, Gonzales, Jackson, Lavaca, and Victoria counties to serve as advocates for residents living in long-term care facilities such as nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Advocates provide empowerment for residents in long-term care facilities throughout the Golden Crescent region. Volunteers must be at least 18 years old and complete a free, 36-hour training course that includes classroom, self-study, and in-facility training. No prior experience is required. Hours are flexible and determined by each volunteer. Registration is required.

Respect



ERIC ESTES
Love, Eric and Eloise

What's up Gonzalonians? I hope you're getting the respect you deserve, as well as respecting others who deserve it also. After writing these little blurps for almost five years now (hard to believe), I can't help but wonder where "the time" has gone. While not considering myself as overly intellectual, my thought is that "the time" is apparently somewhere behind me, as it is for the rest of us, so enjoy today, as it will be gone tomorrow. Speaking of intellect, and intrigued by not only the positive aspects of artificial intelligence, but the long-term ramifications as well, I decided to do a little more research on the subject. Curious about one of the newest and highly touted AI programs available today, my quest began. I apparently misspelled my inquiry into the search engine, ending up at chatblt, where the algorithm just wanted to write weird stories about bacon, lettuce and tomato sandwiches? Hey, that reminds me, what's for lunch? It seems funny to me that humans, who struggle so hard with intellectual capacity,

truth, wisdom, common sense etc., would think that they could program a computer to be smarter than we are. It seems more likely that it will simply exacerbate human mental dysfunction, I guess time will tell! While googling, and with Memorial Day just around the corner, I decided to turn my search in that direction and see what came up. We all know that this day, an American holiday celebrated the last Monday of May every year, is set aside to honor our fallen soldiers, who fought bravely to the death to secure the cushy life that so many of us enjoy and probably take for granted today, but was also curious as to its origin. It was originally observed as Decoration Day, starting shortly after the Civil War, which ended in the spring of 1865, and still has the highest loss of military life of any US conflict to date. If you're anything like me, the question on your mind has to be... what's so civil about war? Many years ago I had the honor of visiting Arlington National Cemetery in

Virginia, which contains over 400,000 headstones (as far as the eye can see), and if that doesn't bring a tear to your eye, I don't know what would. In 1966 our federal government declared Waterloo, New York as the official birthplace of Memorial Day, and in 1971 it became an official national holiday. Scripturally, James 4:1 asks "What is causing the quarrels and fights among you? Don't they come from the evil desires at war within you?" As Billy Graham put it, wars and conflict come about not only because we don't understand each other, or some have less than others, but ultimately come from within ourselves. Pride, greed, envy, jealousy and the lust for power, will cause wars to continue until Jesus Christ returns to establish His Kingdom of perfect justice and righteousness. I pray that God will bless you that have lost loved ones to the atrocities of war with comfort and a peace that surpasses all understanding, knowing that their loss was not in vain. Not only on Memorial Day, but every day, let's show our veterans what they truly deserve... our Respect! Love you guys, Eric.

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Gonzales Co. athletes compete in All-Star games

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

Several Gonzales Apaches and the Nixon-Smilely Mustangs athletes traveled to Pleasanton High School Saturday, May 20 for the 2023 South Texas Coaches Association All-Star games.

Three Gonzales senior athletes (Krystin Baker, Angel Martinez and Josh Ezparza) and eight Nixon-Smilely senior athletes (Madisyne Rice, Mady Velasquez, Braxton Regalado, Brayden Martinez, Sebastian Ortiz, Fernando Mejia, Holden Canion, and George Rodriguez) all received invites to the games.

Rice and Baker played together on the East team and won the game in three sets, and Rice was glad to have a player within the county.

"We went in with the first practice not knowing who was on our team. But having someone that I had seen during the season, knowing her strengths and my strengths, along with everybody else we came in, put in the work and gave it all with energy," Rice said.

Baker said this game was different than a regular volleyball match without her teammates, but she added it felt good getting the win on a special day.

Basketball athletes Brayden Martinez, Angel Martinez, Regalado, and Velasquez competed in the last games of their senior year.

Angel, Brayden and Regalado represented the East team and were coached by Nixon-Smilely head basketball coach Carlton McKinney.

The East team came back from behind and beat the West Team, 94-88, and at the end of the day both teams were there to have fun.

"We just came in just trying to have fun. We didn't come out here and compete like that. Some of us it's our last time playing basketball together," Angel said.

The combined efforts from the Gonzales and Nixon-Smilely athletes helped the East team win the game, and Regalado was glad to have Angel as a teammate.

"I am glad we had Angel on our team. Man, he was a strong help to this team, and Brayden too. Brayden was shifty with the ball, man," Regalado said.

After the game, Regalado received a \$1,000 scholarship from the STCA.

Velasquez suited up in her basketball uniform one last time in the STCA girls basketball all-star game.

Despite the East Team losing in overtime, 67-65, Velasquez put on an MVP performance; hustling for the ball every time she was on defense.

"It's the best of the best here. So it was nice knowing that we came out here and fought, we gave it our all, and even though we didn't come out on top, we know that we had a lot of heart from this team," Velasquez said.

Velasquez was named MVP of the East team, and despite coming back into basketball in the offseason, her fellow all-stars gave everything they got.

"We knew we were out of shape. We knew we were tired, but it was just trying to come out on top and keep fighting and doing a lot for the team," Velasquez said.

The all-star games concluded with the annual all-star football game; Esparza, Canion, Ortiz, Rodriguez, Mejia and Brayden Martinez were invited to represent the East team.

The East team won in overtime, 24-22, over the West team.

Brayden Martinez received a \$1,000 scholarship after the game.

The East team went 3-1 in the games.



Nixon-Smilely linebacker George Rodriguez warms up with the All-Stars from East team at Eagles Stadium in Pleasanton, Texas Saturday, May 20.

PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS



Above: Senior Mady Velasquez represents the Nixon-Smilely Mustangs at South Texas Coaches Association All-Star game in Pleasanton, Texas Saturday, May 20. Velasquez was named MVP of the East Team. Below: Nixon-Smilely Mustangs Brayden Martinez makes a shot attempt towards West basket. Martinez was on the East team along side teammate Braxton Regalado and Gonzales Apaches' Angel Martinez.



Nixon-Smilely senior Madisyne Rice represents the Lady Mustangs in the STCA All-Star Volleyball game. Rice along side with Gonzales Lady Apaches' Krystin Baker represented Gonzales county on the East team.



Senior Braxton Regalado (right) receives a \$1,000 scholarship from the STCA and his coach, Carlton McKinney (left). Nixon-Smilely head basketball coach McKinney, coached the East team with his two players Brayden Martinez and Regalado, and Gonzales' Angel Martinez.

Right: Nixon-Smilely's Braxton Regalado battles with Hondo's Martavues Patterson in the STCA All-Star boys basketball game. Far right: Gonzales Lady Apaches' Krystin Baker with All-Star East teammate Nixon-Smilely Lady Mustangs' Madisyne Rice.



GONZALES UNITED SOCCER CLUB KICKS OFF SEASON



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Gonzales has a new soccer club that kicked off its season Saturday, May 20. Gonzales United and their three teams faced Lockhart United in an intra club scrimmage; 2-1, Gonzales United; 3-2 Lockhart United; and 2-1 Lockhart United. From their Twitter page, "We went out and showed our metal against Lockhart's best in an intra-club scrimmage, proud of everyone tonight the players, coaches and the parents, the fire is lit, let's keep moving forward."

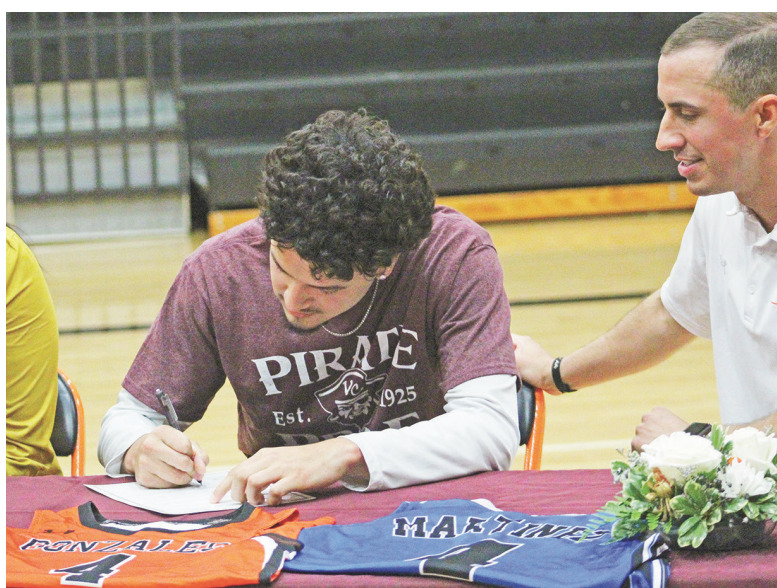
Two Gonzales athletes sign with VC

BY VANDY VAN EPPS
Gonzales Inquirer

Gonzales High School hosted its final signing day for the 2022-23 sports season at the Apache Gym Wednesday, May 17.

Bryce Brown and Angel Martinez will be taking their talents to the cross-roads of Texas at Victoria College; Brown signed with track team and Martinez signed to play basketball.

Martinez capped off his final season with Apaches basketball team earning his 1,000th point in four seasons, and he's happy to put himself into this position and play at the next level.



VANDY VAN EPPS

Gonzales Apaches Angel Martinez signs to continue playing basketball with Victoria College on Wednesday, May 17. Martinez will be studying to become a teacher and coach.

See SIGNING, page 11



LaMonica Peacock

VC announces LaMonica Peacock as head volleyball coach

SPECIAL TO INQUIRER

Victoria College has named LaMonica Peacock Head Coach for women's volleyball.

Peacock comes to VC from Clarendon College, where she served as the Assistant Coach for the women's volleyball team. She brings extensive experience to VC in developing players both on and off the court as well as recruiting, most recently at Clarendon College, Grambling State University, and the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff (UAPB).

While at UAPB, Peacock helped lead the program to a Southwestern Athletic Conference Championship with back-to-back conference tournament appearances.

"Coach Peacock is bringing new energy to our women's volleyball program and has come in working towards building a competitive future for our ladies, both academically and athletically," said Trey Anderson, VC's Athletic Director.

Peacock is glad to be closer to home.

"I am grateful for this chance to be a part of the program and give thanks to God, Trey Anderson, and Victoria College," she said.

Peacock has already begun recruiting players for the 2023-24 competitive season and held tryouts on May 5. VC will hold Volleyball Summer Camps beginning in June at the Victoria College Sports Center. For more information, visit VCPirates.com or call (361) 573-3291.

GOLF SCRAMBLE WINNERS



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

The winning team from the May 17 Golf Scramble at Independence Golf Course in Gonzales were, from left, John & Amelia Hahn, David Kuntschik, Bones Williams, Jarrid Boehm, Wes Caldwell and Ryan Watkins.



The second-place team from the May 17 Golf Scramble at Independence Golf Course in Gonzales were, from left, Bill Kessler, Ronnie DuBose, Zack Reed, Josh Bustos, Aaron Hallmark and Billy Hyman.



GONZALES ATHLETIC BANQUET

The Gonzales Lady Apaches volleyball team with their awards that they earned from the Gonzales Athletic Banquet Monday, May 15.

PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS



The Gonzales Apaches football team hold up their awards from the Gonzales Athletic Banquet Monday, May 15.

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The following graduates have also made selections

Sam Alaniz	Kendall Narro
Haley Bairrington	Kendra Narro
Kristyn Baker	Dustin Schuette
Cole Boothe	Savay Sexton
Hadley Borrer	Brayden Slaughter
Brody Borrer	Layne Thiele
Brayden Davis	Brenda Torres
Kobey Glass	Cortney Tuch
Cooper LaBuhn	Corben Wolff
Faith Lester	Kamrynn Zella
Brendon Mercer	

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VANDY VAN EPPS

Gonzales Apaches track athlete Bryce Brown signs with Victoria College for track and field. Brown will be joining Angel Martinez at the same college, and he'll be studying business.

BRITNEY JONES CAKA
LUTCF, FSCP, CLU
Agent

1731 Seydler St.
Gonzales, TX 78629

o 830-672-7518
M 830-857-6296
E BJonesCaka@txfb-ins.com

FARM&RANCH / ANNUITIES / MEDSUP

SIGNING

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

"It feels great. This is all what I wanted right here. I wanted to play the next level and my coach always believed in me, which I'm really grateful," Martinez said.

Gonzales head basketball coach Matthew Hart was excited to Martinez play at the next level, even before he got the job with Gonzales.

Hart was an assistant coach at Lockhart and got a chance to see Martinez play against them as a junior and was impressed by his play.

"He's one of those guys that I really do care about and that I would go the extra mile for because he's done so much for me," Hart said.

Hart's message for Martinez: he said he's going to be there for Martinez, "no matter what."

"No matter where he goes, how long he's there. I'm going to be there for him. And I already told him I'm a phone call

away and I will be there. But I'm excited to see him go on to this next chapter. And it feels good because I know that he's going to be doing something that he loves," Hart said.

Brown will join Martinez at Victoria College, but on the track team.

Brown said it felt great to continue his track career at the college level and be able to represent Gonzales High School at Victoria College.

Gonzales Apaches head track coach David Tannreuther was excited and proud that Brown was signing to continue competing in track, which was his main focus.

"Talking with him before the year that was his main focus going into the season. He wanted to be able to put himself in a position where he could run at the next level," Tannreuther said.

Brown started his season rough dealing with injuries, but Tannreuther said even though he was frustrated with his injuries, Brown's commitment "never wavered"

"He showed up every single day, even the track meets and after every race, came over and said 'Coach, what do we need to work on? Coach, how can I improve this?' And he was just committed to getting better and succeeding," Tannreuther said.

Tannreuther's message to Brown: he is proud of him and is looking forward to his journey.

"Just keep working. You did everything you've done up to this point. Just keep doing it and you're going to be successful," Tannreuther said.

Martinez is planning to study to be a teacher and coach, and Brown is majoring in business.



The **Gonzales Inquirer** SERVING GONZALES COUNTY SINCE 1891

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Sales will be along Hwy. 90 and throughout the towns.

Maps will be available by Friday, May 26, at the Chamber offices and on the website www.schulenburgchamber.org/90miles-on-90

TJHRA RIDES INTO TOWN



Stoney Decker, of Loving, N.M., maneuvers around a barrel in the barrel competition of the 2023 TJHRA State Finals at J.B. Wells Arena in Gonzales.



Presley Simino, of Winnie, Texas, races through the barrel competition of the 2023 TJHRA State Finals Monday, May 22.



Left: Haze Bruce (right), of Stephenville, Texas, and Paiseley Foegelle, of Lott, Texas, team up to rope up a calf in the team rope competition Monday, May 22 at the J.B. Wells Arena for the 2023 TJHRA State Finals. Above: State finalist Frank Martin, of Marquez, Texas, ropes up a calf in the calf roping competition in the 2023 TJHRA State Finals at J.B. Wells Arena in Gonzales.

PHOTOS BY VANDY VAN EPPS



Dylan Lowry, of Bulverde, Texas, moves around the poles for the pole bending competition of the TJHRA State Finals Monday, May 22.



Texas Junior High Rodeo State Finalists wait as they take their group photo of each region Sunday, May 21. Ten regions and 521 state finalists arrived in Gonzales for the 2023 TJHRA State Finals.



TJHRA state finalists line up for their group photo, Sunday, May 21 at the J.B. Wells Arena in Gonzales.

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Are you always ready to look for those hidden riches? Do you believe in the old adage “One man’s trash is another man’s treasure?” If so, 90 Miles on 90 is your kind of event.

“90 Miles on 90” is the brainchild of the Schulenburg Chamber of Commerce. The yard sale will extend from Columbus to Seguin along Highway 90 and will be held on Friday and Saturday, June 2-3. Maps to all the sales will be available in each of the participating towns, including Columbus (Glidden), Weimar, Schulenburg, Flatonia (Waelder), Luling (Harwood), and Seguin (Geronimo & McQueeney). It’s free to be a vendor, but you do have to sign up with your local Chamber of Commerce or Visitor’s Center to be included on the map.

For more information, please call your local Chamber of Commerce or Visitors Center.

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OBITUARIES

KATALIN (KOPUNOVICS) SZÁNTÓ



Katalin (Kopunovics) Szántó was born on December 15, 1930 in Subotica (Szabadka), former Yugoslavia to Geza Kopunovics and Terez (Valasek) Kopunovics. She was gathered into the arms of our Lord Jesus Christ on May 19, 2023 in Victoria, TX.

Katalin's mother passed away when she was only 6 years old, from tuberculosis, and she and her younger brother Mihály-Miska (Michael) were left without motherly care. As their father Geza married Ilonka (Soros) Kopunovics, the family grew by another son, István-Pista (Stephen) and daughter Margit.

Katalin grew up sorely missing her mother, comforted, and taught by her grandmother, and her aunts. Her dream was to be an actress, cosmetologist, or beautician, but her father chose her path for her. She completed her training as a professional women's seamstress through trade school in Subotica, and through her apprenticeship with the renowned Erzsébet Vajda.

She was a member of the Hungarian Amateur Theater in Subotica. It was in this period of her life that she met her beloved, Imre Szántó (at that time, a professional glass blower and medical instrument manufacturer), at Magyar Nepkor (Hungarian Circle), and married him at the age of 19 on July 2, 1949. They were poor but very happy.

As Imre's company restructured, in 1950 he was called away to work in Zagreb, the capital of Croatia, for the company called "Instrumentaria". Katalin joined him as soon as it was possible, and in Zagreb they lived some of their happiest years, as a young couple, exploring the beautiful city, enjoying their activities with the Hungarian circle, and a large group of friends. First, they rented a room from a Hungarian friend, and later found their own apartment on Nad Lipom

street (Linden street). In 1954 Imre Szántó, Jr. was born. Katalin had chosen his name as a child before she had any idea her husband would bear the same name.

Imre struggled with asthma as a child, and then at the age of 8 survived a near fatal fall from a roof, which left him without a spleen.

Katalin worked for "Instrumentaria" for a while, working on the production line of medical instruments, especially syringes. She also worked for a clothing manufacturing company, working often from home, especially when young Imre developed health problems.

As active members of the Lutheran Church in Zagreb, Imre started his studies of theology, and in 1965 was called and ordained to be pastor of the Lutheran Church in Legrad, Croatia, a call which he happily accepted because it was a small Hungarian congregation.

In December of 1966, Ildikó was born, and the family continued living the life of a pastor's family. Katalin taught Sunday school and was authorized to preach on Sundays when Imre would serve in a second parish. She organized Christmas programs and single handedly sewed costumes and practiced the plays with the children. She was her husband's secretary and translated for him when that was needed. Being a seamstress, she also organized sewing classes for the women of Legrad, and often sewed for women.

Katalin worked in Sweden for three months, babysitting a Hungarian pastor's children, and during that time sorely missed her own family. Upon her return to Legrad, she tried her hand at being the DJ at the local radio station for a while.

Katalin had a green thumb, and while living in the small rural village of Legrad, learned to grow a large garden at the parsonage, complete with close to 50 fruit trees and numerous flower beds. She froze and canned all the fruit and vegetables for the family and raised chickens.

Katalin inherited an enormous amount of ingenuity from her father, and she was a great problem solver and fixer. She was never afraid of hard work. She was also a gourmet cook, and always enjoyed trying out new recipes and dazzled the many pastor guests and their families with the best food to eat. Her baking was also outstanding. Not only did she delight her family with delicious "from scratch" desserts, but very often parents of couples who wanted to get married, asked her to bake wedding cakes.

After her beloved husband, Imre passed away during their visit to Ildikó and Carlos in 2001, she sold all her belongings and moved to the United States in 2003, a dream that she and Imre had when they were a young couple.

She lived in Gonzales and Victoria, and enjoyed helping raise Anna, her youngest granddaughter. She particularly enjoyed being a part of the Lutheran congregational life, and accompanying Ildikó to her pastoral meetings, Deaneries, assemblies, and conferences, where most people knew her as "Mom".

Katalin was a fiercely loving, but strict mother to Imre and Ildikó and she loved and treated her grandchildren with the same kind of love. Loving, but strict. Imre and

his wife, Éva, who lived in Vienna, Austria gave her three beautiful grandchildren, Attila, Csongor and Noémi. Attila and Susanne gave her the only great grandchild, Aurelia (3), whom she knew from pictures and videos.

Katalin has one regret, that she was not able to get to know the people of Trinity Lutheran Church very well, but she deeply felt the love and prayers during her illness.

She was preceded in death by her beloved husband Imre, her parents, both brothers, son Imre, and many aunts and uncles, and cousins. She is survived by her daughter Ildikó and her husband Carlos Rigney, daughter-in-law Éva Szántó, grandchildren Attila (and wife Susanne) Santo-Rieder, Csongor Szántó, Noémi Szántó and Anna Rigney, great-granddaughter Aurelia, sister Margit Kuzek, sister-in-law Magda Kopunovics, and many beloved nieces, nephews, and friends.

She will be dearly missed, but we know that she has joined her loved ones and her ancestors in God's heavenly home, through the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom be thanks, glory, and praise.

The family will receive friends from 12:30 pm to 2 pm Saturday, May 27, 2023 in Trinity Lutheran Church. Funeral services will be held at 2 pm Saturday, May 27, 2023 in Trinity Lutheran Church with Rev. Herb Beyer officiating. Interment will follow in the Hochheim Prairie Hermann Sons Cemetery. Pallbearers: Elgin Heinemeyer, Paul Watkins, Darrell Haug, Steve Pirkle, Larry Clark, and Steve Zimmerman. Memorials may be made to Trinity Lutheran Church or Hospice of South Texas. Friends may leave their condolences to the family by visiting www.seydlerhillfuneralhome.com. Services are under the care and direction of Seydler-Hill Funeral Home.

Texas rural students face college shutout without FAFSA changes

BY ROZ BROWN
Texas News Service

Texas educates more rural students than any other state at nearly 700,000, and there is concern a new law meant to simplify applying for college financial aid could make it more difficult for farm kids to attend.

In 2020, Congress passed the FAFSA Simplification Act, a formula used to determine how much financial aid students can receive. It eliminated a long-standing provision for how farm families determine income, excluding non-liquid farm assets, such as farmland, equipment, storage structures and more.

Nick Fouriezios, a journalist for Open Campus, said without a fix, college could be out of reach for a whole generation of farm-raised kids.

"If you had a family farm, you didn't have to calculate the net worth of the farm because a family farm isn't something you can just piece up and sell when it's time to go to college," Fouriezios explained. "Maybe if it was a stock, you could sell it. You can't sell the

auger that you're using to make a living on the family farm."

A bipartisan group of U.S. senators led by Sen. Joni Ernst, R-Iowa, has introduced a bill to restore the exemption. Last year, the average farm family was expected to contribute around \$8,000 to their college student's tuition. The figure would climb to \$41,000 next year, according to an Iowa College Student Aid Commission study.

Fouriezios acknowledged rural students graduate from high school at higher rates than those in urban areas, but are less likely to obtain a two- or four-year college degree, and do not need more barriers to attending postsecondary education.

"You add something like this, which could greatly, greatly increase the actual costs that they're bearing, and their inability to access certain scholarships and resources and, I mean, it could make a huge difference," Fouriezios observed.

It is estimated more than 85% of college students, or almost 18 million, currently receive some type of financial aid.

LAW ENFORCEMENT WEEKLY REPORTS

Gonzales County Sheriff's Office
05/14/23 - 05/20/23

05/14/23
• Martinez Fausto, Saul Nickolis, 05/2001, Houston: Driving while Intoxicated/Open Container, Released on \$3,500 Bond

05/16/23
• Hernandez Petit, Diego Andres, 07/2001, Katy: Money Laundering >\$2,500 <\$30K, Released on \$7,500 Bond; Possession Marijuana <2 oz, Released on PR Bond

05/18/23
• Strickler, Jordan Alexander, 11/1991, Katy: Galveston PD Warrant - Theft Property >\$750 <\$2,500, Released on \$1,500 Bond
• Coffey, Ronald Lee, 05/1971, Nixon: Driving while Intoxicated, Released on \$3,000 Bond

05/19/23
• Dovalis, Nicholas Alexander, 07/1992, San

Antonio: Commitment/Sentence - Intoxication Assault w/Vehicle SBI, Released - Weekender
• Zavala, Gabriela, 06/1978, Waelder: Commitment/Sentence - Theft Property <\$2,500 2/ More Previous Convictions, Released - Weekender
• Smith, Tevin Vashaun, 08/1996, Gonzales: Commitment/Sentence - Assault Family/Household Member Impede Breathing/Circulation, Remains in Custody

05/20/23
• Rose, Aspen Nichole, 12/1992, Manor: Criminal Trespass, Released on \$750 Bond

Total Arrest, Court Commitments, other agency arrest and processing's:

GCSO	08
DPS	00
GPD	06
WPD	01
NPD	03
GISD	00
SMO	00
Constable 1	00
Constable 3	00
Constable 4	00
DWCSO	00
DEA	00
TPW	00
GCAI	00
Rangers	00
Other	00
Total	18

Local churches combine for VBS

Make plans to join the Presbyterian and First Evangelical Lutheran Churches of Gonzales as they host Vacation Bible School on June 13-15 from 9 a.m. to noon.

VBS will be held at the Presbyterian Church of Gonzales located at 414 St. Louis Street. Students who have completed kindergarten through sixth grade are welcome. The theme this year is "Hero Hotline Called Together to Serve God." Please join us for good time filled with Bible lessons, crafts and games.



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8 Austin MFM Dr Malik Dr Desai	9 Dr Echols Dr Quintero	10 Dr Quebedeaux Dr. Twitero	11 Dr Ryan Dr Echols	12 Dr Miller Amy Trost
15 Austin MFM	16 Dr Echols	17 Dr Quebedeaux Dr Miller	18 Dr Ryan Dr Malik Dr Echols	19 Dr Bui
22 Austin MFM	23 Dr Echols	24 Dr Quebedeaux	25 Dr Ryan Dr Kirchner Dr Echols	26
29 Austin MFM	30 Dr Echols	31 Dr Quebedeaux Dr Miller		

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George Osuchukwu, MD
(361)576-0011
Yong Du, MD
(361)576-0011

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Pain Management
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(830) 272-7746

Urology
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(830) 379-8491

Ophthalmology
Joseph Kavanagh, M.D.
(830) 379-3937

Orthopedics
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(830) 625-0009

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(830) 303-0005
Charles White, D.P.M
(830) 303-0005

Austin Maternal Fetal Medicine
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TOMMY CHENAULT SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED



Shiner St. Paul senior Carson McNabb is the recipient of the 2023 Tommy Chenault Scholarship, which honors all "Fallen but not Forgotten" veterans in the area, awarded by the GISD Class of 1964 and the Community Foundation of the Gonzales Area.

PHOTO BY LORI RAABE

Shiner High School seniors Hunter Knight and Haven Flores are the recipients of the 2023 Tommy Chenault Scholarship, which honors all "Fallen but not Forgotten" veterans from the area. The Chenault award is presented by the GISD Class of 1964 in conjunction with the Community Foundation of the Gonzales Area.



Kathleen Knesek inducted into Phi Kappa Phi honor society

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

Kathleen Knesek of Gonzales, Texas, was recently initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society. Knesek was initiated at University of Delaware.

Knesek is among approximately 25,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

Phi Kappa Phi was founded in 1897 under the leadership of undergraduate student Marcus L. Urann who had a desire to create a different kind of honor society: one that recognized excellence in all academic disciplines. Today, the Society has chapters on more than 325 campuses in the United States, its territories and the Philippines. Its mission is "To recognize and promote academic excellence in all fields of higher education and to engage the community of scholars in service to others."

Summer Reading Program begins at Brothers Library

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

The Robert Lee Brothers Jr. Memorial Library in Gonzales will be starting the Summer Reading Program beginning May 30 and continuing through July 7.

Children ages 3 years old through sixth grade can participate in the program and will need to read 12 books by July 7 to complete the six-week program.

After completion, all the good readers can come by the library anytime starting Monday, July 10 to pick up their certificate and goodie bag.

Nixon-Smiley FFA receives national FFA scholarships for the first time

SPECIAL TO THE INQUIRER

It is the first time in Nixon-Smiley's FFA history for members to receive a national FFA scholarship. Nixon-Smiley FFA was chartered in 1933 and in the last 30 years has been just a localized chapter.

For the past four years, they have been soaring to greater heights. Members have been putting in lots of hours serving their community and leading the chapter to a new level of success. They are extremely happy to announce that not one but two of their members received national FFA scholarships.

Madisyne Rice is being awarded \$2,500 dollars from two national FFA



Rice



Gaytan

scholarships - The Ford Trucks/Built Ford Tough Scholarship — Caraway Ford for \$1,000, and The Grow Ag Leaders Scholarship for \$1,500.

Grecia Gaytan is being awarded \$5,000 from The FFA Future Leaders Scholarship by TSC-Trade.

Mrs. White, Nixon-Smiley's agriculture science teacher and FFA advisor, said, "It is my absolute honor and privilege to recognize these outstanding individu-

als who have been awarded national FFA scholarships.

"These Ladies have made history for the Nixon Smiley FFA and I am so proud to have spent the last four years with these girls helping shape their futures to be successful citizens in society. You are the future of agriculture and will represent women in agriculture well. Thank you for taking the time to put all your hard work down on paper and into a not-so-easy application; now you can say all your hard work has been rewarded.

"Words can express how proud I am to be your Ag teacher and I can't wait to see what the future hold for both of you. Congratulations." Mrs White added.

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ACROSS

- 1 San Antonio hot sauce maker
- 5 TXism: "brains in ____" (computer)
- 6 TXism: "is the ____ Catholic?"
- 7 mama dog's litter
- 8 TXism: "____ some gravel!" (fell)
- 9 cow talk
- 12 TX Ed Sedgwick directed ____ Pa Kettle films
- 17 exerts
- 19 TXism: "____ of his own shadow"
- 21 TX Guy Clark 1992 album: "____ Build"
- 22 Upshur County seat
- 23 this herbicide was put on Austin's "Treaty Oak" in 1989
- 28 Adam & Eve son
- 29 small Eurasian deer
- 30 TX Charley Pride's "Then ____"
- 31 TXism: "wipe the slate clean"
- 35 "three," south of the border
- 36 TXism: "does a ____ the woods?" (yes)
- 42 TXism: "____ death" (pleased)
- 44 Delon of "Texas Across the River"
- 46 in Austin: "____ Texas Book Festival"
- 48 tea dribbles
- 49 nevertheless

DOWN

- 1 former popular Houston eatery: "____ House"
- 2 Travis Tritt tune: "It's All ____ Change"
- 3 ____ Cove, TX
- 4 TX Strait's "All My ____ Live in Texas"
- 9 water vapor
- 10 TX Willie Nelson 1980 hit (4 wds.)
- 11 "bear," south of the border
- 12 periodical abbr.
- 13 TXism for "mean man" (3 wds.)
- 14 this Guthrie performed at TX Willie's Farm Aid III

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison
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- 50 TXism: "a day late ____ dollar short"
- 51 big health insurance provider
- 52 TXism: "can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ____"
- 53 worry
- 54 TXism: "squeaks like a rusty ____"
- 56 Abilene's Dyess ____ Force Base
- 57 "____ pig's eye"
- 58 TX sculptor Elisabet
- 15 Joan Crawford's Texas birth ____: Lucille Fay LeSueur
- 16 TXism: "gives up the ghost"
- 18 enjoyed dinner
- 20 ____ Pepper
- 23 German beetle?
- 24 Elvin, of UH and NBA fame (init.)
- 25 in Falls County on U.S. 77
- 26 equality in the NFL
- 27 Don of 1943 film "Heaven Can Wait" with TX Tierney
- 32 QB Staubach (init.)
- 33 George W.'s 2000 opponent, Gore
- 40 1924 slogan: "Me for Ma, and ____ Got a Dern Thing Against Pa"
- 41 Foch of 1953 film "Sombbrero" with TX Cyd Charisse
- 43 ____ Porte, TX
- 45 Stormin' general for George H.W. (init.)
- 47 Stephens of Dallas Cowboy cheerleader films
- 48 TXism: "____ as a squirrel up a tree" serving platter
- 34 dir. to Coleman from Abilene
- 36 TX golfer Hogan
- 37 seat of Jackson County
- 38 TXism: "he can't carry ____ in a bucket" (can't sing)
- 39 Astro batting location: home ____

SUDOKU

8					4		2
			8				9
			6	7			
		5					
9			7	6			
2	6	7	9				
		4		9	1		5
					4	3	1
				5		6	

Level: Intermediate

Fun By The Numbers
Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test.

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers found in next week's Classifieds.

NEWBURY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

but she “learnt” Blackie more than she “learnt” me. Sherrod’s fans at the commencement exercises shed tears--just as he did--when he accepted the award. One fan, appreciative of Blackie’s rapier wit, observed, “I’m so glad I came today, if only to see Blackie weep. I didn’t think he had tear ducts...”

Dr. Newbury, longtime university president, has written weekly since 2003. He continues platform appearances throughout Texas. Contact: 817-447-3872. Email: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Facebook: Don Newbury

HOSPITAL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The final day of the legislature — sine die — is scheduled for May 29. The bill has been sitting in the Senate Local Government Committee since being referred there on April 24.

“Sen. Kolkhorst has a requirement that anytime there’s legislation like this within her district, she asks the county commissioners to review it to make sure they’re in agreement,” said Nixon Hospital District Board Vice President Joe Hewell. “The whole purpose of this is a very positive thing. We want to take care of it out of our existing cash flow with a \$1 million, plus or minus, investment.”

Hewell said the goal for Nixon Hospital District, which serves parts of both Gonzales and Wilson counties, is to build a new facility that would “give us an opportunity to expand and elevate care for that area.”

“We’re a Title III hospital and have been since the early 1960s and this facility existed before then,” Hewell said. “I was born in this facility and I’m 70 years old. We’re spending more money each year on the facility itself and we decided, about a year ago, to go forward with building a new facility. We want to get into preventative care, hire a nutritionist and do physical therapy in addition to what we do there now.”

“We sat down with Rep. Kuempel in January and he looked at it and said, ‘Joe, this is a slam dunk.’ They took it all the way through the House and I went up there and testified on the committee side of it.”

According to Chapter 1080 of Title III of the Special District Local Laws Code, the hospital district has the responsibility to establish a hospital, hospital system, or clinic within its boundaries to provide hospital and medical care to the district’s residents.

Hewell said the formation documents for the district, which date back to the 59th Legislature in 1965, allow the hospital district to raise taxes and issue bonds, but do not clearly state whether the district can simply borrow money against their existing and expected revenues.

He said the district will be applying for loan funding through the USDA Rural Development Program Community Facilities Program with “favorable terms,” including a 40-year repayment period. The district also qualifies for up to a maximum of \$300,000 in grants due to the average household income within the boundaries of the district.

“So we’re trying to get this down to a \$400,000 loan. It fits well with a 2:1 debt retirement within our cash flow without any other changes, so the taxpayers get a win-win out of this,” Hewell said.

RADIO

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Commissioner Kevin La Fleur, while another plan labeled “Alternative C” was favored by County Judge Pat Davis and Precinct 4 Commissioner Collie Boatright Jr.

Alternative C would be a hybrid of a county-owned VHF trunked P25 Phase I radio system with the LCRA’s shared Phase II 700/800 system, including the Smiley tower. While it had the highest overall costs at \$6.3 million in capital and the highest recurring cost at \$104,000, it was expected to provide coverage to more than 93 percent of the county outdoors while also giving first responders an option to still have interoperability outside the county.

Whiddon, Brzozowski and La Fleur favored Alternative B because of the lower cost it involved, while Davis and Boatright preferred Alternative C because the county would have use of not one, but two systems, leaving them with a backup in case of a catastrophic failure of one system, plus they would still maintain ownership in their own trunked system and have greater control over it.

Greg Forrest, an engineer with Hatfield & Dawson, told commissioners that under Alternative B, LCRA would have to construct “four additional tower sites to enhance radio coverage, as well as provide access to three other existing towers located in surrounding counties.”

The county’s grant funding would be used to “purchase and install the repeaters, towers, shelters, and generators for the four new repeater sites to expand LCRA coverage.”

Meanwhile, LCRA would “maintain the fixed radio equipment, dispatch consoles, equipment shelters and generators; the county would maintain the towers.”

“Because this is a leased arrangement, you’re going to have the lease costs, and that will depend on how many vehicle and handheld radios as well as the number of consoles you have,” Forrest said, noting costs of about \$100 per month per console and \$20 per month per radio. It is compatible with the existing Motorola radios you have today.

“Since this is a leased arrangement, you’re a user on a shared system as opposed to having that ownership. There isn’t any direct representation ... or anything like that. This is basically a user relationship or client relationship.”

Alternative C implements portions of what was being called Alternative A, which is a fully county owned VHF trunking system, along with an enhanced LCRA system by adding equipment at the recently completed Smiley tower site.

Forrest said the benefit of Alternative C is that “adding another system to Alternative A provides a really good backup solution, so should the primary system go down for whatever reason — catastrophic failure, which is generally unusual, however, you do have pretty severe weather occasionally — it does provide a different system. And it uses, to some degree, different radio sites, so it does provide a relatively good backup, and they backup each other to a degree.”



CONTRIBUTED

Representatives from Victoria Communications Systems/Motorola and from LCRA/Harris listen to the presentation by Hatfield & Dawson consulting engineers about the benefits of each radio system to the Gonzales County Commissioners Court. Also listening in are Gonzales County Emergency Management Coordinator and Fire Marshal Jimmy Harless and other members of law enforcement.

However, Forrest said, the key disadvantages are that it is “costly to expand coverage and capacity” to the VHF side and “I think is important to note once some of the county users move to the VHF system, there’s going to be users on one trunked system, the VHF, and others on the LCRA. The field radios generally cannot scan between two different radio systems.”

“If you’re used to scanning both LCRA and the conventional radio system that’s in use today, you are not going to be capable of doing that when you have two trunked radio systems,” Forrest added. “The radio has to be either operating on one or the other. Some of the ways around that from our other customers is oftentimes, law enforcement in particular, have a vehicle radio and a handheld radio for safety. They keep the vehicle radio on the main system that they’re operating on for dispatch and they have the handheld on the alternate system to listen and that works really well.”

HERITAGE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

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ing, your block, your town, your landscape. The heritage treasures here are very significant to our community and the State of Texas. Celebrate them and encourage the City to move ahead with a Preservation mission that

will further enhance and save treasures here.

Ann Covert is the former co-owner of the St. James Inn and a former member of the Gonzales Convention & Visitors Bureau.

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VANDY VAN EPPS

The Gonzales High School seniors showed off their college and military colors for the second annual GHS Decision Day Friday, May 19. The schools that were represented were the University of Texas, Texas A&M University, UTSA, Texas State University, Full Sail University, Universal Technical Institute and many more.

DECISION

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

toria College and many more.

Gonzales High School Principal John Basha said last year more than 50 students participated in the first decision day and this year it doubled.

"We hope to keep increasing that through the years. We livestreamed it online, we had our junior class here so that they can understand what this is all about, so that next year, they're prepared whenever they're seniors," Basha said.

The seniors showed off their

future college rivalries with future Longhorns and Aggies taking jobs at each other before walking the stage Friday, May 26.

"They need to end their senior year smiling and having a good time because this is a celebratory time of year. And this senior class, they're really coming together at the end, this is their last time where they're going to really be together as a class until they start having reunions," Basha said

"So this is just an opportunity for

them to share those experiences together and have that fun as they end out their senior year," Basha concluded.

Basha had a message to the class of 2023: "Keep having fun, always smile and remember that we love you and remember where you come from. Those small roots really make a big difference in the world but always remember Gonzales and where you came from."

The Gonzales seniors will walk the stage at graduation this Friday.

GRADUATE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Friday, May 26, at Mustang Stadium. Valedictorian is Cecilia Villasana, while salutatorian is Jennifer Vasquez.

WAElder

Waelder High School graduation ceremonies will be held at 6 p.m. Saturday, May 27, at the Waelder ISD gymnasium. The valedictorian is Angela Gutierrez and the salutatorian is Elizabeth Godinez.

GRANT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and bringing additional jobs and sales tax to the area," Hutchinson-Padilla said.

Reba Griesinger purchased the building from the original owner, Richard Green, Hutchinson-Padilla said.

The board was presented photos of the inside of the building and the water damage from the roof leaks.

"She's got the required two quotes on that. She believes that the repairs will be around \$70,000. With the 90-10 grant, we will max out at \$52,000 on the reimbursement, bringing it to about 18 to 20 percent of her own investment for the grant," Hutchinson-Padilla said.

Board member Valerie Daniels was concerned about who is doing the repairs. She asked Griesinger why they are going with a company from Tennessee instead of a local company in Texas.

Griesinger said when she got the bid, she reached out to three of four different people in the area and didn't get a response, but she knew a friend Tennessee that does remodels.

The board had two quotes regarding the roof repairs; one from the Tennessee company and one from a company in Texas.

The board suggested to Griesinger to keep the construction as local as possible, and Hutchinson-Padilla said one of the board members works at McCoy's and can give referrals for jobs.

The board approved the incentive grant, 7-0.

In other business, the board approved the following agenda items:

- approved to tabled actions regarding the down town beautification
- approved action regarding Juneteenth
- approved action regarding the warehouse clean up
- approved action regarding the recognition of the retirement of Dr. Gage, Main Street Business.
- approved action regarding hosting a monthly Main Street Third Thursday type event.

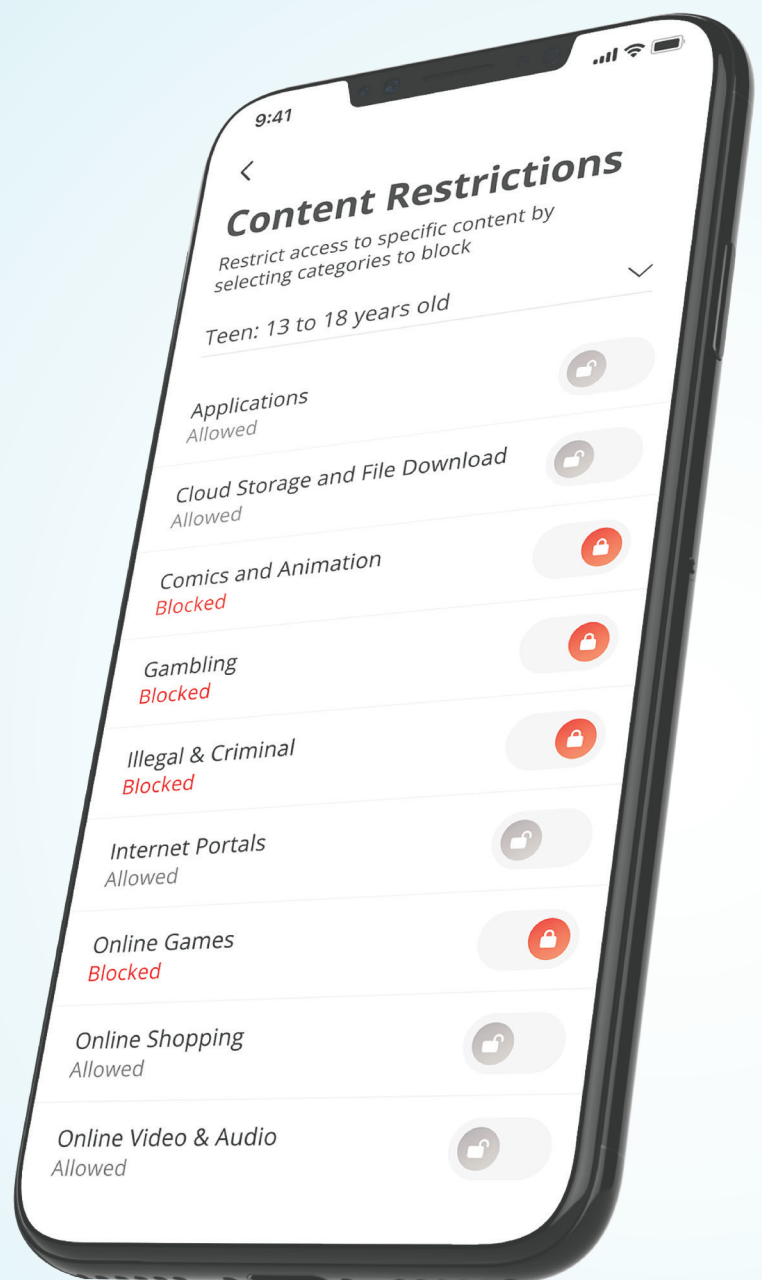


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